THE
NEW BRUNSWICK
MUSEUM

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RULES

AND

REGULATIONS,

FOR THE

GOVERNMENT

OF THE

PORTLAND FIRE CLUB,

FORMED

ANNO DOMINI, 1840.

SAINT JOHN:

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1841.

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RULES.

THAT this Society do not exceed in number FIFTY Persons. That they meet Quarterly, viz.: on the First Monday in December, March, June, and September, at Seven o'clock, P. M. in the Winter, and at Eight o'clock, P. M. in the Summer; and whosoever shall not be present when the list is called over, which shall be in fifteen minutes after the time fixed for meeting, shall pay a fine of *One Shilling*; but if such Member be absent the whole evening, then *Two Shillings* to be exacted, unless excused by sickness, or necessary absence from home.

II.

That a President and a Vice-President be chosen annually, by ballot, on the first Monday in December, for the orderly transacting the business of this Society, at its several meetings, who shall attend to all motions made and seconded, and put the same to vote; every vote to be determined by a majority of the Members present, except that of admitting a new Member, (as hereinafter provided —see Rule V.)

III.

That a Secretary, who shall also act as Treasurer, be elected, by ballot, annually, on the first Monday in December; if the person, so elected, shall decline serving in that office, he shall pay a

fine of *Twenty Shillings;* the ballot to be repeated until one be found to serve. That the Secretary be furnished with a Book, at the expense of the Club, wherein he shall duly register all proceedings, and keep an account of fines. That it shall be his duty to settle all expenses at each Quarterly Meeting; also to call all meetings; and likewise to warn two Members to attend with him for the purpose of inspecting the state of the Bags, Lanterns, Baskets, Hats, &c.; the Members to be warned, in rotation, as they stand on the list, so that each Member may be made acquainted with the residence of each other; and any Member not having his Hat, Bags, Basket and Lantern (as may have been allotted to him) in good order, with strings to the Bags and a Candle in the Lantern, shall be noted by the Secretary, and represented to the Society at the next meeting, under a penalty of *Two Shillings and Six-pence;* and the defaulter, upon report, shall be fined *Two Shillings and Six-pence* for each deficiency, and *Seven Shillings and Six-pence* if without the whole articles.—To keep a fair account of the proceedings of the Society; and for every neglect he shall be fined *Five Shillings.* And this Rule also provides, that an Assistant Secretary be appointed to act as Secretary, in the event of that officer's sickness or absence, who, during his official capacity, shall do the same duties and be subject to the same fines as the Secretary; and any Member refusing to attend the Secretary or Assistant Secretary in his Inspection of Hats, Bags, &c. shall be fined *Two Shillings and Six-pence;* and it shall be the duty of every Member to have his apparatus ready for inspection within Ten Days after every fire, under the penalty before-mentioned.—That the Secretary shall warn the Society three

days before any meeting, by leaving a notification at the house or store of each Member.

IV.

That each Member of this Club shall provide and keep in perfect order, at his own expense, a Lantern and Bed-screw, or a Basket and two Bags; the Basket to contain not less than one and a half bushel, and the Bags three bushels each; the Bags to be made of strong Raven's duck, with drawing-strings to close the same, and to be marked with the first letters of the owner's christian name, and his sirmame at length, and the letters "PORTLAND F. C. No. —"; the Baskets and Lanterns to be marked with the owner's name and "PORTLAND F. C." with the number, according as he may stand on the list of Members; that at the first establishment of the Institution it shall be determined by ballot which of the Members of this Club shall provide and keep in good order a Basket and Lantern; and every one admitted afterwards shall provide a Basket or Lantern, as may be directed by the President: that an equal number of each may belong to the Club. Each Member holding a Lantern, shall at all times keep a Candle therein, which, in case of alarm of Fire at night, it shall be his duty to light, at the first convenient place he may come to; but if the alarm be given in the day-time, the Members who have Lanterns shall be excused from carrying them to the Fire.—That each Member shall likewise provide himself with a Hat, to be painted vermilion and glazed, with "PORTLAND F. C." in white letters, on the front; the whole of these articles shall be kept hanging in the most convenient place in his house or store, as near as may be to the front door, and

not to be used except in the alarm of Fire, under a penalty of *Five Shillings* for each offence.

V.

That no new Member shall be admitted, except by ballot, (a majority of the effective Members being present;) and that four black balls shall exclude.

VI.

That upon alarm of Fire, every Member of the Society (unless prevented by absence from the City or Portland, or from sickness) shall immediately repair, with Hat, Bags, Basket, or Lantern, as may have been allotted him, to the place of danger, and there use every exertion in his power to preserve the effects and property of the persons in danger, (always remembering that when any of the Members of the Club are in danger, the preservation of their property shall be a primary object) by carefully removing them to some convenient place of safety, to prevent the embezzlement thereof.—If any one of the Members is found guilty of wilful neglect, he shall pay a fine of *Seven Shillings and Six-pence.*

VII.

That for the better security of the property in danger, and to prevent the admission of improper persons into the house which this Club may be engaged to protect, a Committee shall be appointed at each Quarterly Meeting, of which the President and Vice-President shall be two; and five other Members shall be appointed by the President.—That it shall be the duty of one or more of the said Committee to guard the door.—That in the absence of the President and Vice-President, the Committee-man first at the fire shall take charge

of the Club, and give directions as to the removal of the property, until the President or Vice-President makes his appearance.—And that in the absence of the said Committee, the Members present shall act individually, to the best of their ability, under a penalty of *Seven Shillings and Six-pence.*

VIII.

That the Club shall meet at

or such other place as the majority of the Members may determine on; and the Secretary shall collect from each Member *One Shilling*, at each Quarterly Meeting.

IX.

That whosoever absents himself four Quarterly Meetings successively, (unless from indisposition or necessary absence from home,) shall be deemed as quitting this Society—paying his fines, nevertheless, for non-attendance—and shall not be admitted without the usual ceremony of Election.

X.

That these Rules shall be printed, and every Member provide himself with a copy, at his own expense, and insert therein the name of every Member, and produce the same at the Annual Meeting, say on the first Monday of December, under the penalty of *One Shilling* if they produce no Book of Rules, and *One Shilling* for the name of each Member not registered therein.

XI.

That every person, on being admitted a Member of the Club, shall pay into the hands of the Secretary *Five Shillings;* and that amount, together with the fines collected, shall be appropriated as a

majority of the Members shall think best, for the benefit of the Society.

XII.

That every person, after being duly admitted as a Member, shall sign the Bye-Laws, and if he refuse to do so, it shall be considered as his resignation from the Society.

XIII.

That it shall be the duty of the Secretary to inform every person, duly elected, that he is a Member of this Club, within five days after his admission, that he may be prepared with Hat, Bags, Basket, or Lantern, as may have been allotted him, against the next Quarterly Meeting; and in the Secretary failing so to do, by leaving a written notice at the house or store of the persons, he shall pay a fine of *Two Shillings and Six-pence.*

XIV.

That besides the regular Quarterly Meetings, it shall be in the power of the President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President, (who shall at all times act as President, in the President's absence,) with the concurrence of any six Members, to call a Special Meeting, of which the Secretary shall give notice, as on Quarterly Meetings; and every Member, not attending the same, shall be liable to pay the same fine as for neglecting a Quarterly Meeting.

XV.

That in case the President and Vice-President are both absent, at any regular meeting, the Members present shall appoint a President *pro tem.* for that night only.

XVI.

In all debates concerning the affairs of the Club, or questions that may arise, every Member shall stand up, while he speaks, and address himself to the Chairman; and if more than one shall speak at a time, the Chairman shall request the first who stood to proceed, and the rest shall immediately sit down; and no private altercations or disputes are to be suffered during the time the Chairman occupies the Chair.

XVII.

That no Member of the Club do introduce any stranger into their room, at any of their meetings, unless such strangers have been regularly ballotted for and passed, under the penalty of being expelled this Club.

XVIII.

That the Secretary shall not pay any bill or account against this Club, without the President's signature attached to it.—That whatever Monies the Secretary may receive, provided they exceed Forty Shillings, shall be deposited in the Savings' Bank: and all Cheques on said Bank shall be signed by the President and Secretary.

MEMBERS' NAMES.

No.

1. Chas. J. Waterbery,
2. Thomas Gillespie,
3. Wm. W. Jordan,
4. Gilbert Jordan, Jun.
5. William Rogers,
6. Andrew Scott,
7. William Parks, Jun.
8. James Barber,
9. George F. Smith,
10. George Young,
11. Wm. Cunningham.